

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
December 27, 2007
Harpswell Town Office
Approval on January 10, 2008

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Selectmen Present: Amy N. Haible, James S. Henderson and Chairman Samuel W. Alexander

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Alexander at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was videotaped and broadcast live on Harpswell Community Television.

1. Adoption of the Agenda: Chairman Alexander moved, seconded by Selectman Haible to amend the agenda and add as 7a. Approval of the warrant and 7b. Public comment; motion passed 3-0. Chairman Alexander moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to adopt the agenda as amended; motion passed 3-0.

2. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane reviewed Paul Gamache's work experience and recommended the Board hire him as the Town's Bookkeeper for 25 hours/week. Selectman Haible moved, seconded by Chairman Alexander to hire Paul Gamache as bookkeeper; motion passed 3-0. Administrator Eiane explained that the Cumberland County Marine Patrol Deputies have requested to change their work schedule from five days to four days with the same amount of hours. The proposal continues to provide sufficient coverage and would allow the deputies to bid for additional shifts in other towns. Deputy Bradbury stated that currently the two deputies cover a total of 10 tides and will continue to under the proposal. Deputy Bradbury explained that if a deputy works more than the scheduled hours in one day, they will work less on another day; therefore, overtime is not an issue. Chairman Alexander moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to further review this issue and a draft contract amendment at the January 10 meeting; motion passed 3-0. Administrator Eiane informed the Board that the Budget Advisory Committee completed their work today and that the Committee is prepared to meet with the Board on January 9 at 3:00 p.m. Administrator Eiane recommended the Board hold a Selectmen's meeting on January 17 to consider budget items and invite the school board members for an update on the consolidation process. Administrator Eiane reported that the October 30 and December 1 reports from the Washburn & Doughty Negotiators are posted on the Town's website. Administrator Eiane informed the Board that the Collective Bargaining Agreement is due for negotiations as it expires December 31, 2007 and that she, Pat Dunn (of Jensen, Baird, Gardner and Henry) and Manager Jim Gordon would negotiate the new contract based on the parameters set by the Board. Administrator Eiane suggested an executive session on January 10 at 5:30 to discuss the parameters.

3. Selectmen's Announcements: Chairman Alexander stated the Town received a letter from Representative Tom Allen stating that 9.4 million dollars in federal funding has been budgeted for the removal and remediation of the pipeline. Selectman Haible thanked everyone who organized and attended the Winter Solstice at Mitchell Field. Selectman Henderson stated the past School Consolidation meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather and that the next meeting is scheduled for January 2.

4. Open Bids for Replacement of an Overboard Discharge System: Chairman Alexander opened the following bids: Ed Skillin, Inc. \$18,000; Mitchell Construction \$26,880 plus \$2,000 if a pump is needed; John L. Davis Construction \$12,759 plus \$1,500 if a pump is needed; and Tupper Construction \$16,180. Chairman Alexander moved, seconded by Selectman Haible to approve the John L. Davis Construction bid pending DEP approval (if necessary the Board approves the next lowest bid); motion passed 3-0.

5. Review of December 24 Session with Washburn and Doughty Negotiators: The Board discussed the reports submitted by the Negotiators which contain suggestions on how to proceed at Mitchell Field without Washburn and Doughty. The Negotiators have recommended the Town spend up to \$200,000 to develop a

strategic plan from the conceptual master plan. Selectman Haible requested this report be shared with the Mitchell Field Committee and the Town Planner.

6. Discussion of Harpswell Coastal Coalition Proposal Re: Mitchell Field: Chairman Alexander moved, seconded by Selectman Haible to table this item until the January 10 meeting as the Coalition's representative could not attend tonight; motion passed 3-0.

7. Consideration of Personnel Policy Change Re: Health Insurance: Administrator Eiane explained that the Board made a policy change in the past year to pay only the single rate of health insurance coverage for the Selectmen, Road Commissioner and Treasurer and allow family coverage at the employee's expense. The policy was effective for each position with the exception of grandfathering two Selectmen that were in the midst of their terms. Administrator Eiane stated that in retrospect, this amendment should have been set to begin in 2010 as the Treasurer and Road Commissioner had already submitted papers to run for these positions subsequently their benefit package was altered. Administrator Eiane recommended the Board amend the policy to allow the Road Commissioner and Treasurer family coverage at existing levels until 2010 and explained that the net change to the proposed 2008 budget in benefits is under \$3,000 (add treasurer, road commissioner and remove bookkeeper). The Board discussed whether the policy should be amended as recommended or without a date to allow a more desirable recruitment package for these positions in the future. Selectman Haible moved, seconded by Chairman Alexander to adopt the amendment, effective January 1, 2008. Selectman Henderson moved to strike the 2010 date; motion fails for a lack of a second. Selectman Haible's motion passes 3-0.

7a. Authorization of the Warrant: Administrator Eiane recommended approval of warrants 65 and payroll warrant 57. Chairman Alexander moved, seconded by Selectman Haible to approve warrant 65 in the amount of \$62,408.28, with \$10,696.72 coming from contingency for the new server; motion passed 3-0. Selectman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to approve payroll warrant 57 in the amount of \$12,463.25; motion passed 3-0.

7b. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer